



# CASA

## *CASA of Yavapai County*

### *February, 2013 Newsletter*

## Farewell to the Courthouse

On January 18<sup>th</sup> the Prescott CASA Office moved from the downtown Courthouse to its new digs in the Juvenile Justice Center. It was certainly bitter sweet as we left the offices where you had all visited for so long. Still, we love our new offices and are trying desperately to get all the boxes emptied and complete the process of organizing our new space. All Dependency Hearings, Case Support Meetings, Foster Care Review Board Meetings, Dependency Mediations, and other trainings are now being conducted in the new facility.

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### SAVE THE DATE

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February 22, 2013  
Sally Campbell Memorial  
Best for Babies Seminar

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Baby CASA Training (flyer/info to follow in an email) 2/28/13 9:00-3:00  
lunch provided.

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CASA Appreciation Luncheon  
Verde 4/22/13 12:00 – 1:30 (Jury  
Assembly Room – Verde)

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CASA Appreciation Luncheon  
Prescott – 4/26/13 11:30 – 2:00  
(location TBD)

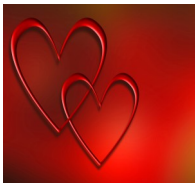
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Adoption Day –Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> at  
2:00 p.m. at the JJC

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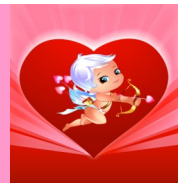
June 12, 19 & 26  
Motivational Interviewing  
JJC





# Yavapai CASA Calendar

## February, 2013



M	T	W	T	F
	<b>** All Tuesday Dependency Hearings now at the Juvenile Justice Center **</b>			1
4	5 FDC ~ 2:30 (at the Prescott Court House)	6	7 Baby Case Support meeting 10:00 (at the JJC)	8 Best for Babies Court Teams meeting 10:00 <b>**CANCELLED**</b>
11 C for K Board meeting 4:00	12	13	14 Jane's Case Support 11:00 (at the JJC)	15 Coordinators in Phoenix all day for Staff Development
18 Holiday ~ Office Closed	19 FDC ~ 2:30 (at the Prescott Court House)	20 Janet's Case Support, 11:00 (at the JJC)	21 Time for Teens ~ 9:30 (at the JJC)	22 Sally Campbell Memorial, Best for Babies...see page 6
25	26	27	28 Baby CASA Training, 9:00 ~ 3:00	

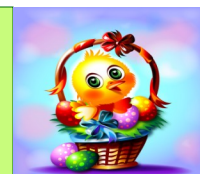
### February at a glance

- 2/5 & 19 Family Drug Court, Prescott Court House, 2:30 ~ 5:00
- 2/7 Best for Babies Court Teams meeting, Juvenile Justice Center, 10:00
- 2/8 Baby Case Support meeting, P.V. Prevent Child Abuse, 10:00 **\*\*\*CANCELLED\*\*\***
- 2/11 C for K Board meeting, Visiting Center, United Methodist Church 4:00 ~ 5:00
- 2/14 Jane's Case Support, Juvenile Justice Center, 11:00
- 2/15 Coordinator's in Phoenix all day for Staff Development
- 2/18 President's Day ~ Office Closed
- 2/20 Janet's Case Support, Juvenile Justice Center, 11:00
- 2/21 Time for Teens monthly meeting, Juvenile Justice Center, 9:30 ~ 11:30
- 2/12 Sally Campbell Memorial ~ Best for Babies, see page 6
- 2/28 Best for Babies Training 9:00 ~ 3:00, JJC, lunch provided (flyer to follow)



# Yavapai CASA Calendar

## March, 2013



M	T	W	T	F
	Dependency hearings <u>and</u> FDC will be held at the JJC			1 Best for Babies Court Teams meeting ~ 10:00 Prevent Child Abuse in Prescott Valley
4	5 FDC ~ 2:30	6	7 Baby Case Support meeting 10:00 (at the JJC)	8
11 C for K Board meeting ~ 4:00	12	13	14 Jane's Case Support 11:00 (at the JJC)	15
18 CASA Training 10:00 ~ 11:30 (Topic to be determined)	19 Dependency hearings <u>and</u> FDC will be held at the JJC FDC ~ 2:30	20 Janet's Case Support meeting ~ 11:00	21 Time for Teens ~ 9:30 (at the JJC)	22
25	26	27	28	29

### March at a glance ...

- 3/1 Best for Babies Court Teams meeting, Prevent Child Abuse, Prescott Valley ~ 10:00
- 3/5 & 19 Family Drug Court, Juvenile Justice Center, 2:30 ~ 5:00
- 3/7 Best for Babies Case Support, Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) ~ 10:00
- 3/11 C for K Board meeting, Visiting Center, United Methodist Church 4:00 ~ 5:00
- 3/14 Jane's Case Support
- 3/18 CASA Training, JJC, 10:00 ~ 11:30 (topic to be determined)
- 3/20 Case Support with Janet Lincoln
- 3/21 Time for Teens monthly meeting, Yavapai Title, 123 N. Montezuma 9:30 ~ 11:30
- 3/31 Easter

# TIME FOR TEENS

This month, the Time 4 Teens meeting will be in the Juvenile Justice Center on February 21<sup>st</sup> 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Time 4 Teens has finalized the design of our logo. This logo will be placed on all Time 4 Teens materials that are sent out to the public.

We have also updated the Transitional Youth Index (TYI). This document which was developed by Time 4 Teens is used by CPS and others to assist and provide Independent Living Services for teens 16-18. This document identifies elements that are instrumental in the youths positive transition to adulthood.

The Transitional Youth Index will be placed on the CASA web site at [CASAofYavapaiCounty.org](http://CASAofYavapaiCounty.org). Please feel free to go to the web site and review the Transitional Youth Index. We welcome your comments and/or suggestions.

Time 4 Teens is finalizing our training schedule. We plan to host or co-host several training events this year.

If you have any topics that you would Time 4 Teens to make a presentation on please forward you suggestions to Myla Smith or Mike Wade.

Time 4 Teens is growing. We will start a Time 4 Teens group on the Verde side of Yavapai County. Both groups will co-host events as well continue to work for the youth in the communities. The groups will share information regarding resources and training events for the teens and CASA volunteers.

If you work with teens, or just want to be a part of a group that makes a difference, in the lives of teens then come join us.





# Yavapai CASA for Kids, Inc.



## Free Clothing for Children

Information Provided by  
Yavapai CASA for Kids Inc.  
[www.YavapaiCASAforKids.org](http://www.YavapaiCASAforKids.org)



**CHILD HAVEN.** This organization distributes clothing free of charge (primarily for younger children, although they sometimes receive donations of clothing for teens) on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon at the 7th Day Adventist Church, 2980 Willow Creek Road. There's no need to call in advance, but for questions, call 772-3435.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.** They are open on Mondays and Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. People needing clothes for any age children are invited to come in, without an appointment, and take what they need. 114 Union Street, Prescott. 771-7592.

**NEEDFUL THINGS.** 8400 E. Spouse, Prescott Valley. This is associated with the Yavapai Food Bank, and they have a limited supply of clothing to give away (only 2 to 3 outfits per child). Contact: Lynne Passfield, 775-5255. Needful Things is open only Tuesday and Wednesday from noon to 4 p.m., although Lynne is in the office Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If it is an emergency, Lynne will make clothing available at other times. On the weekends, for a true emergency, her cell phone number is 928-499-8857.



**OPEN DOOR.** This is a division of the Coalition for Compassionate Justice and is located at 5050 W. Gurley, at the corner of Summit (with the entrance on Gurley). They are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. An appointment is not needed, but for questions, call 445-8382. Open Door provides a free voucher to be used for clothing (for all children of all ages) at their thrift shop. Once a foster parent receives the voucher, they can come to the thrift shop as often as once a month to get clothes.



**SALVATION ARMY.** The Salvation Army operates a thrift shop at 225 S. Montezuma (enter through the door marked "Social Services"). Foster parents can get a voucher for 2 outfits per child (all ages) plus shoes and a jacket. The voucher can be used only on the day it is issued, and the clothing choices will depend on donations received. So it is recommended that parents come in first to determine if there is clothing available that would be appropriate for their children. The thrift shop is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. No appointment is needed, but for questions, call 778-0150. Each child is eligible to receive a voucher every 60 days.



**TEENS' CLOSET.** This outreach of the American Lutheran Church provides clothing and accessories to teens, aged 13 to 19. The address is 717 White Spar Road, and it is necessary to call or e-mail first for an appointment (583-4374; [teensclosetattherock@gmail.com](mailto:teensclosetattherock@gmail.com)).

# Best for Babies

## SAVE THE DATE!

### Sally Campbell Memorial Best for Babies Seminar

Court Teams for Infants and Toddlers:  
Integrating the Science of Early Childhood and Child Welfare

Friday, February 22, 2013  
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law  
Arizona State University, Tempe



### Featuring: Sheree L. Toth, PhD

*Executive Director, Mt. Hope Family Center  
Associate Professor  
Department of Clinical & Social Sciences in Psychology  
University of Rochester*

#### Who Should Attend

*Juvenile Court Judges and their Court Teams - Court Appointed Special Advocates  
Health Care Professionals - Attorneys - Law Students - State Legislators  
Foster Parents - Early Childhood Advocates - CPS & Child Welfare Professionals  
First Things First Regional Partnerships - Mental Health Professionals  
Behavioral Health Professionals - Infant Mental Health Specialists*

#### Sponsored by:

- Infant-Toddler Mental Health Coalition of Arizona
- Arizona State University, T. Denny Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics Masters of Advanced Studies in Infant-Family Practice
- Arizona State University, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
- Prevent Child Abuse Arizona - *Best for Babies Project*

Program and registration information will follow in early January.

## Coordinator's Corner



# MATFORCE

Working together to reduce substance abuse

## Prescription Drug Abuse Epidemic How You Can Help

**Tuesday**  
**February 12, 2013**  
**9:00 am to 11:00 am**  
**Prescott Valley Library**  
**Auditorium**  
**7401 E. Civic Circle**  
**Prescott Valley, AZ**  
~~~~~  
**1:30p to 3:30p**  
**Public Safety Building**  
**Multi-Purpose Room**  
**199 S. 6th St.**  
**Cottonwood, AZ**

**Please RSVP**  
**by 2/7/13 to**  
**matforce@cableone.net**  
**(928) 708-0100**

### Topics Include

Is prescription drug abuse really a problem in Yavapai County? Learn about the pervasiveness of this epidemic in our county.

*Presented By* **Shana Malone**  
Senior Research Analyst, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Learn the purpose of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

*Presented By* **Dean Wright, R. Ph.**  
Prescription Monitoring Program Director, AZ State Board of Pharmacy

Discuss how physicians' and pharmacists' use of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program benefits patients, practitioners, and pharmacists.

*Presented By* **Tomi St. Mars MSN, RN, CEN, FAEN**  
Chief, Office of Injury Prevention, Arizona Dept. of Health Services

Learn how to educate the community about risks, disposal and storage of prescription drugs.

*Presented By* **Shelly Mowrey**  
Senior Director, Programs and Communications, DrugFreeAZ.org

**NATIONWIDE** - "Prescription drug abuse is the nation's fastest-growing drug problem, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has classified prescription drug abuse as an epidemic," according to the Obama Administration National Drug Control Strategy. Prescription pain killers result in more accidental drug overdoses than cocaine and heroin combined.

**YAVAPAI COUNTY YOUTH** - Our youth are abusing prescription medication at an alarming rate - well above state and national averages. The unofficial number of young adults who have died accidentally from prescription drug related causes during the past year is 8 needless deaths.

*This training is provided at no cost through a collaboration with the AZ State Board of Pharmacy, AZ Criminal Justice Commission, AZ Dept. of Health Services, DrugFreeAZ.org and*

**MATFORCE**  
Working together to reduce substance abuse



## Coordinator's Corner

JPO and APD have created an Motivational Interviewing Training schedule. We will be conducting an MI class specifically geared toward CASA's on the following dates 6/12, 6/19 and 6/26. This is a 3-day course, and they will be held in the JJC.



## Join a Support Group

### Support Groups:

Joining a support group helps you to be successful on your case. The support groups provide lively and informative discussion by all. The attendees include a mix of veteran and new CASAs. The Support groups meet various times throughout each month, providing an opportunity for you to participate.

- The group lead by Janet Lincoln meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the JJC, 1100 Prescott Lakes Parkway, Prescott, AZ 86301, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- The group lead by Jane Shaw meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at the JJC, 1100 Prescott Lakes Parkway, Prescott, AZ 86301, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Best for Babies support group meets the first Thursday of each month at the JJC, 1100 Prescott Lakes Parkway, Prescott, AZ 86301 , 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

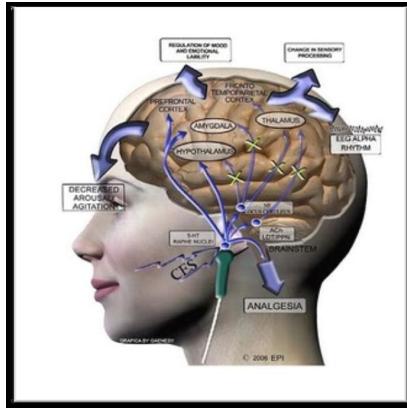


|                                                                                                                            |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p>2/6 James Lundquist</p> <p>2/13 Larry Cox</p> <p>2/18 Gordon Roberts</p> <p>2/20 Jan Baker</p> <p>2/22 Gay Lockling</p> |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|



## Coordinator's Corner

**Quantitative EEG (qEEG)/ Brain Mapping** involves the use of computers to analyze digitally collected EEG data. It is more objective than mere visual examination of EEG waveform morphology. It utilizes mathematical processing of digitally recorded EEG data in order to reveal specific components via numerical results. The definition of quantitative EEG is very broad and pertains to various measures and numerical computations including, for example, power (amplitude), coherence (connectivity), phase (speed), and ratios, etc.



### Therapies that Stimulate the Brain by (Battery Powered) Electro Stimulation (CES) AC or Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS) DC Current

**Cranial Electro Stimulation (CES)** AC current is used at only 1 to 3 milli-amps for stimulation (See Figure 1). To be clear, one ma is 1/1000 of an amp, a very small amount of electricity. This is likely why CES has been shown for several decades to be a very safe procedure. In fact, 1 ma and below is considered below the human perceptual level. To put this in perspective, a typical wristwatch uses only 1 to 2 micro-amps of current, while a typical LED indicator light on so many small electronics items in the marketplace uses 2 to 5 ma of current. The little lights on a CES device typically use quite a bit more power from the battery than the actual stimulation does.

**Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS)** DC current at 1 to 2 milliamp (ma) is typically used (see Figure 2). One ma is 1/1000 of an amp, a very small number, and as a result, tDCS has proven to be very safe. Excitation is achieved by anodal (+) stimulation, while inhibition is achieved by cathodal (-). Anodal stimulation has also been shown to increase both beta and gamma activity in the visual cortex, while cathodal stimulation has decreased beta and gamma activity.

**Cranial Electro Stimulation (CES)** is neurostimulation that applies a small, pulsed alternating (AC) electric current across a person's head. CES is considered to have beneficial effects in conditions such as anxiety, depression, insomnia, and stress. In the United States, CES technology is classified by the Food and Drug Administration as Class III medical devices and must be dispensed by or on the order of a licensed healthcare practitioner, inclusive of a physician, psychiatrist, psychologists, nurse practitioner, or physician assistants. CES is FDA-approved for the treatment of anxiety, depression and insomnia. There is good scientific data showing promise in the treatment of other conditions such as pain, substance dependencies, and in its use as a calming of agitation and aggression in various mental health conditions.

The exact mechanism of action of CES remains unclear but it is proposed that CES reduces factors that underpin many psychological disorders. Recent research is beginning to shed more definitive light on likely mechanisms of actions. It has been suggested that the pulsed electrical current results in modulation and change in the functioning neurocircuits and likely default neurocircuits, and also, in an increase in the brain's level of serotonin, norepinephrine, and dopamine and a decrease in its level of cortisol. Feusner et al. (2010)<sup>1</sup> noted that "CES causes cortical brain deactivation, with a similar pattern for high- and low-frequency stimulation, and alters connectivity in the DMN. These effects may result from interference from high- or low-frequency noise. Small perturbations of brain oscillations may therefore have significant effects on normal resting state brain activity. These results provide

<sup>1</sup>Jamie D. Feusner, Sarah Madsen, Teena D. Moody, Cara Bohon, Emily Hembacher, Susan Y. Bookheimer & Alexander Bystritsky (2012): Effects of cranial electrotherapy stimulation on resting state brain activity, *Brain and Behavior* 2012; 2(3): 211–220

## Coordinator's Corner

insight into the mechanism of action of CES, and may assist in the future development of optimal parameters for effective treatment.”

CES has a long proven track record of safety, especially in conjunction with alternative pharmaceutical treatments for the same conditions. There have been no reports of lasting adverse effects, significant side-effects, or any serious contraindications to CES treatment. CES treatment has not been shown to interact negatively with any medications and may be used adjunctively with psychoactive medications. The few associated side effects reported in research to date have been mild and time-limited and include dizziness/nausea (<1%), skin irritation or mild electrode burns (<1%), and headaches (<1%). In rare cases, CES may trigger temporary paradoxical reactions of hyper-excitability, increased anxiety, and sleep disturbances.

**Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS)** is neurostimulation which uses constant, low, direct current delivered to the brain area of interest via small electrodes placed on the scalp (see Figure 2). It was originally developed to help patients with brain injuries such as strokes. Tests on healthy individuals have demonstrated that tDCS can increase cognitive performance on a variety of tasks, depending on the area of the brain being stimulated. It has been utilized to enhance language and mathematical ability, attention span, problem solving, memory, and coordination. It is also a promising clinical procedure for the treatment of a variety of mental health disorders. Transcranial direct current stimulation is beginning to be used more frequently as a brain stimulation technique because it has been shown that it is extremely safe for human use. The accepted maximum current for human use is 2 mA and usually 1 mA or less is used. The device has a maximum current setting within this range wherein no harm can be done.

Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation works by sending direct current through electrodes. Placed in the brain region of interest, the current induces intracerebral current flow. This current flow then either increases or decreases the neuronal excitability in the specific area being stimulated based on the placement of a (cathode) cathodal negative electrode and (anode) anodal positive electrode creating a circuit. The Device that delivers the current has controls that set the current and duration of stimulation. The way that the stimulation changes brain function is either by causing the neuron's resting membrane potential to depolarize or hyperpolarize. When positive stimulation is delivered, the current causes a depolarization of the resting membrane potential, which increases neuronal excitability and allows for more spontaneous cell firing. When negative stimulation is delivered, the current causes a hyperpolarization of the resting membrane potential. This decreases neuron excitability due to the decreased spontaneous cell firing.

The use of tDCS is widely regarded as a safe method of brain stimulation, causing no known harm. There are no known risks in using tDCS at this time, but there are a few associated temporary minor side effects that may be experienced including mild skin irritation, a phosphene or seeing a brief flash of light at the start of stimulation, nausea, headache, dizziness, and itching under an electrode. Therapy using tDCS may be the most promising application of this technique. There have been therapeutic effects shown for various psychological disorders and in its use to enhance cognitive and emotional dispositions.

**Neurofeedback (NFB)** uses real-time displays of brain activity with a goal of training a person's control of such activity. Sensors are placed on the scalp in various locations to measure activity with measurements displayed using a sounds or video. NFB is a safe and effective intervention for a variety of mental health issues. Treatment with EEG NFB is based on the theory that once a person understands their brain activity and they learn to manipulate their own brain waves, they will be able to continue to do so, long after the therapy has ended. NFB rarely produces negative side-effects. In fact, lack of side-effects is a major reason for its use. A very small minority of individuals have reported brief negative feelings (e.g., anxiety, or frustration) or physical sensations (e.g., fatigue, dizziness, and tingling sensations) during treatment. These negative side-effects are very rare and usually last only a short period of time.

# Verde Valley CASA News

## Welcome Verde Valley CASAs and Collaborators

We are happy to announce that the CASA Newsletter will now be County Wide. We welcome our Verde Valley CASAs, community and agency partners, and collaborators to the newsletter distribution. If you know someone who wants to receive the newsletter, please send their email address to [msmith2@courts.az.gov](mailto:msmith2@courts.az.gov).

The "Verde Valley CASA News" pages will be dedicated to training, information, and stories from the Verde Valley office of the CASA Program. Please let us know about your Verde Valley news so we can share it!

**Mike Wade** is now working in the Verde Valley CASA Office on **Monday's and Tuesdays** as we work towards getting him there full time. Please feel free to contact Mike in the office on those days and in the Prescott office Wednesday through Friday. The Support Staff schedule for the Verde Valley CASA Office is still under discussion. We will let you know as soon as it is formalized. In the meantime, Tracy and Myla will be helping to support the Verde Valley CASA Office on certain days in the Verde Office and from Prescott as needed.

Mike and Tracy met with several of the Verde CASAs for their CASA monthly meeting on Monday January 28<sup>th</sup>. The CASAs discussed several topics including what type of training they would like to have. The topics below were requested:

ICWA (Indian Child Welfare Act)

Drugs

Psychological Evaluations and Interpretation

Verde Valley Guidance Clinic (Programs and Services)

Presentation/Information Requests:

CPS – Investigation, Ongoing, Adoptions

CASA Foundation

Tutoring for Foster Kids

IEPs (Individual Education Plans)

Please contact Mike Wade with a request for training topics that will help you in your work as a CASA Volunteer.

| Sun | Mon                                                       | Tue                             | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     |                                                           |                                 |     |     | 1   | 2   |
| 3   | 4<br><i>Mike in Camp Verde</i>                            | 5<br><i>Mike in Camp Verde</i>  | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   |
| 10  | 11<br><i>Verde Hearings, Tracy and Mike in Camp Verde</i> | 12<br><i>Mike in Camp Verde</i> | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  |
| 17  | 18<br><i>Holiday ~ Office Closed</i>                      | 19<br><i>Mike in Camp Verde</i> | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  |
| 24  | 25<br><i>Mike in Camp Verde</i>                           | 26<br><i>Mike in Camp Verde</i> | 27  | 28  |     |     |

*We thank you for your patience as we complete staffing assignments and training for the Verde Valley CASA office.*

Please let us know of any Verde Valley News you would like us to include in the newsletter.

## Verde Valley CASA News

### MEET THE CASAS

Meet the CASAs was an ongoing column in the prior Verde CASA newsletter. Continuing in the same format, we introduce MOLLY GARTNER.

Molly has been a CASA for a year and a half and in January completed her first case -- a year and a half old who was returned to mom. Molly still has another case, a two-year old child placed in the same home as her earlier case.

Molly lives in the Village of Oak Creek, having bought a home here on her second visit from the Bay Area. Red Rock Fever was the attraction! She was born and raised in Tillamook, Oregon, and left there to attend Oregon State University. Her major was education. However, having married a Marine, they moved a lot and she discovered teaching credentials varied from state to state. So first Molly was a travel agent and then she managed trade shows for Clorox.

Molly has two children, a son and a daughter and two grandchildren. Her six- year old grandson lives in Italy with his Air Force dad and Italian mom and speaks no English. Her sixteen-year old granddaughter, currently in Oregon, was in foster care in California and had a CASA, making Molly aware of the program and motivating her to become involved in the program.

Below are the meeting dates for Verde CASAs. Judge Young and Mike will be present for them and they are all 12:00 – 1:30:

Verde Valley CASA Meetings

- February 25<sup>th</sup>
- March 25<sup>th</sup>
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> – CASA Appreciation Luncheon
- May 20<sup>th</sup>
- June 17<sup>th</sup>
- July 29<sup>th</sup>
- August 26<sup>th</sup>
- September 23<sup>rd</sup>
- October 21<sup>st</sup>
- November 18<sup>th</sup>
- December – No Meeting



## Verde Valley CASA News

### VERDE VALLEY CASA CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

**VERDE VALLEY CASA CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION** was established in 2006 as a means of providing extras for dependent children in Court supervised care in the Verde Valley. Its mission statement is *to enhance the quality of life for the dependent children under court supervision in the Greater Verde Valley.*

The Foundation achieved 5013c status and receives funding through local organizations and churches as well as some fund-raising activities. Currently, the 2012-13 academic year, it is also receiving support from Yavapai College, which selects non-profit groups to support. VVCCF was selected for the Verde side of the mountain.

The Foundation has a board of eight - **President Elise Richards**, former CASA, doctor's wife, and mom. She ended an extremely varied nursing career by teaching at a college similar to Yavapai. She has lived in the Verde area since 2005.

**Betty Hart** is a retired school administrator from the Phoenix area, has lived in the Verde area 16 years and is a former CASA.

**Faye Kornfeld** is a retired teacher, former CASA and CASA mentor. She was a mid-westerner before a move to California and finally to Sedona around the most recent turn of the century.

For **Karin Krippene**, the Verde area is the fifth geographic area in which she has lived. She has substitute taught and worked as a travel agent.

**Karreemah Muhammad**, originally from New York City, has lived in the Verde area eight years. After a stint in the army she worked as a corrections officer on Rikers Island.

**Mark Pelletier** is Executive Director of Cottonwood's Old Town Mission. During much of his career in the Northwest he worked with the CASA program.

**Barbara Woods** is Assistant Program Manager for Northern Arizona CPS.

**Judge Duane Wyles** has practiced law since 1958, moved to the Verde area in 1976, was a judge in the Verde Valley Justice Court, and occasionally substitutes for judges in Yavapai County.

Judge Wyles and Betty Hart are two of the original board members and responsible for creating the Foundation in the Verde Valley.

## Contact Information

### **CASA OF YAVAPAI COUNTY**

**WE'RE ON THE WEB:**

**[www.CASAofYavapaiCounty.org](http://www.CASAofYavapaiCounty.org)**



If you cannot attend an FCRB, you  
may e-mail the Board at:

**[rptfcrb@courts.az.gov](mailto:rptfcrb@courts.az.gov)**

### **Yavapai CASA for Kids, Inc.**

**Serving our Court Protected Children and the CASA  
Program**

**Court Appointed Special Advocates**

**...a child's voice in court**

Yavapai CASA for Kids generously donates gift cards (various denominations and designs available) for CASAs to celebrate birthdays, special events, and/or big (or yes, even little) accomplishments with their CASA children. Every foster child can use a little "celebration". In addition, the board provides \$10 gas cards for CASAs that travel long distances to visit their

### **CASA of Yavapai County**

Phone: 928-771-3165

Fax: 928-771-3387

#### **Camp Verde:**

**Mike Wade.....CASA Coordinator  
(928) 554-8903**

**.....Support Staff  
(928) 554-8900**

#### **Prescott:**

**Tracy Sauer, Program Manager (928) 777-7901  
Email: [tsauer@courts.az.gov](mailto:tsauer@courts.az.gov)**

**Michele Wade, CASA Coordinator  
Email: [mwade@courts.az.gov](mailto:mwade@courts.az.gov)**

**Myla Smith, CASA Coordinator  
Email: [msmith2@courts.az.gov](mailto:msmith2@courts.az.gov)**

**Lynda Ransom, CASA Support Staff  
Email: [lransom@courts.az.gov](mailto:lransom@courts.az.gov)**

**Kristen Newman, Family Drug Court  
Coordinator (928) 771-3398  
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### **Yavapai CASA for Kids, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 12457, Prescott, AZ 86304  
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**[www.yavapaicasaforkids.org](http://www.yavapaicasaforkids.org)**

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